Inventors and Inventions of the Industrial Revolution

History · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. What was the primary function of the spinning jenny, invented by James Hargreaves?

A) To pump water out of mines
B) To draw thread from eight spindles simultaneously
C) To generate electric current
D) To produce artificial dyes

2. Which spinning machine, patented by Richard Arkwright, was the first fully automatic and continuously operating spinning machine, powered by a waterwheel?

A) Spinning mule
B) Spinning jenny
C) Water frame
D) Power loom

3. Who invented the spinning mule by combining features of the spinning jenny and the water frame?

A) James Watt
B) Samuel Crompton
C) Richard Arkwright
D) James Hargreaves

4. What significant improvement did James Watt add to steam pumping engines in 1765 to increase their efficiency?

A) A separate condenser
B) A rotary motion
C) A high-pressure boiler
D) A magnetic coil

5. Who is generally recognized as the inventor of the steam railway locomotive?

A) George Stephenson
B) James Watt
C) Richard Trevithick
D) Andrew J. Beard

6. What device patented by Andrew J. Beard in 1897 automatically connected railway cars, improving safety?

A) Lubricating cup
B) Steam engine
C) Jenny coupler
D) Rotary shaft

7. Elijah McCoy patented a device that automatically lubricated steam engine bearings, often referred to as his:

A) Rotary engine
B) Jenny coupler
C) Lubricating cup
D) Wireless telegraph

8. Who designed the North River Steamboat, the first commercially successful paddle steamer?

A) Robert Fulton
B) Alexander Graham Bell
C) Thomas Edison
D) Michael Faraday

9. Michael Faraday's experiments with electric current and magnets led to the principles behind which two inventions?

A) Telegraph and telephone
B) Incandescent lamp and electric motor
C) Electric generator and electric motor
D) Internal-combustion engine and automobile

10. Who independently invented a practical electric incandescent lamp in 1878-79, along with Thomas Edison?

A) Lewis Latimer
B) Joseph Swan
C) Michael Faraday
D) Werner von Siemens

11. Lewis Latimer, an American inventor, patented a carbon filament in 1881 that improved the efficiency of what invention?

A) Telegraph
B) Telephone
C) Electric motor
D) Incandescent lamp

12. What universal code, consisting of dots and dashes, was created by Samuel F.B. Morse for telegraphy?

A) Morse Code
B) Braille
C) Semaphore
D) Baudot Code

13. Who is credited as the primary inventor of the telephone, which transmitted sound by means of an electric current?

A) Thomas Edison
B) Alexander Graham Bell
C) Guglielmo Marconi
D) Samuel F.B. Morse

14. The first commercially successful internal-combustion engine, using coal gas and air, was constructed by which Belgian inventor?

A) Nikolaus Otto
B) Gottlieb Daimler
C) Rudolf Diesel
D) Étienne Lenoir

15. Which German engineer is credited with introducing the four-stroke cycle in the internal-combustion engine?

A) Gottlieb Daimler
B) Rudolf Diesel
C) Nikolaus Otto
D) Étienne Lenoir

16. Who invented the first gasoline-powered internal-combustion engine based on Otto's four-stroke design?

A) Rudolf Diesel
B) Gottlieb Daimler
C) Nikolaus Otto
D) Karl Benz

17. What invention by John Deere in 1837 significantly improved plowing with its lighter weight and strength?

A) Mechanical reaper
B) Steel plow
C) McCormick reaper
D) Multiple-effect evaporator

18. Cyrus McCormick developed the mechanical reaper in 1831, which greatly increased harvesting efficiency compared to:

A) Tractors
B) Harvesters
C) Handheld scythes
D) Threshing machines

19. Norbert Rillieux invented the multiple-effect evaporator, which revolutionized which industry by efficiently boiling sugar cane juice?

A) Textile industry
B) Sugar industry
C) Automotive industry
D) Agricultural industry

20. George Washington Carver is known for his advances in synthetic production, developing hundreds of new uses for crops like:

A) Wheat and corn
B) Peanuts, soybeans, and sweet potatoes
C) Rice and barley
D) Cotton and tobacco